House searches by Excise Officers.

51. Mr. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a range-war statement giving information under the following heads:

(*a*) the number of house-searches conducted in 1096 and 1097 by the officers in the different grades of the Excise Department;

(*b*) the number of house-searches that were successful;

(*c*) the number of cases charged before Magistrates;

(*d*) the number of cases that ended in conviction; and

(*e*) the number of house-searches conducted under magisterial warrants?

Mr. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): A statement† furnishing the information is laid on the table.

Letter from Messrs. Ferris and Co.

52. Mr. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*):

(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the letter from Messrs. Ferris and Co., containing the insinuation that the head of a department asked for commission for articles purchased for the use of Government and referred to in the answer given to my interpellation asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 10th Vrischikam, 1098, was received either before or after the answer given to my interpellation No. 47 on the subject at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th Karkadakam, 1097?

(*b*) Have the Government sent a reply to the above letter to the firm?

Mr. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The letter was received before the answer.

(*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

Re-auction of Arrack and Toddy shops.

53. Mr. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of shops, both arrack and toddy, in respect of which arrears of kist have not been paid from the 1st Tulam, 1098, till the end of Medam, 1098, and the number of such shops as were re-auctioned during the period?

Mr. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There are no such toddy or arrack shops.

Powers of Appointment of the Inspector of Vernacular Schools.

54. Mr T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI: (*Kalkulam* cum *Tovala*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total number of subordinates in the vernacular schools whose appointment is vested in the Inspector of Vernacular Schools;

† *Vide* Appendix II—page 216.

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(*b*) (i) the number of those among them whose pay is above Rs. 15 : and

(ii) the number whose pay is Rs. 15 or less ;

(*c*) whether the Inspector of Vernacular Schools finds time to properly conduct the inspection work of the several schools, after attending to his work in connection with the appointment, transfer, leave, etc., of those subordinates ;

(*d*) whether they do not consider it essential in the interests of the administrative efficiency of those officers to invest the Assistant Inspectors of Vernacular Schools with the power of appointment up to Rs. 15 ;

(*e*) whether the Inspector of Vernacular Schools has written to the Director of Public Instruction that this power must remain with him ; and

(*f*) whether the Director of Public Instruction has addressed the Government on the subject ?

Mr. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) 5348.

(*b*) (i) 1440.

(ii) 3908.

(*c*) He says that he finds time.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) and (f) Yes.

Liquor Shops near Public Places.

55. Mr. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*) : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement of the number of toddy and arrack shops near public roads, markets, schools, and places of public worship throughout the State ?

Mr. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The statement* required by the member is laid on the table. It includes all toddy and arrack shops within a furlong of the above-mentioned places.

Mr. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*) : Will the Government be pleased to say whether they have cancelled the circular to the effect that toddy and arrack shops should not be located near public thoroughfares, markets, schools, places of public worship, etc. ?

Mr. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : I claim notice.

Sale of Foreign Liquor at Quilon.

56. Mr. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*) : (*a*) Did the Government sanction a special license for the vend of foreign liquors for the town of Quilon in 1096 on the distinct condition that liquors brought for sale under that license should be imported through the sea direct from foreign countries ?

* *Vide* Appendix III—page 217

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